



MAY 07 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ZARN ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Serial No.: 10/718,139 Group Art Unit: 3617  
Filed: NOVEMBER 20, 2003 Docket: 9047.25USU1  
Confirmation No.: 9087  
Title: COVER FASTENING SYSTEM FOR A BOAT

## CERTIFICATE UNDER 37.CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 5, 2004.

By: *[Signature]*  
Name: *[Signature]*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 5 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By: *[Signature]*  
Name: Robert A. Kalinsky  
Reg. No.: 50,471  
RKalinsky:PLSdkg

(PTO TRANSMITTAL - GENERAL)

Copied from 10178139 on 06/16/2006



PATENT

10/718,139

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Applicant:  | ZARN ET AL.                       | Examiner:       | UNKNOWN     |
| Serial No.: | 10/718,139                        | Group Art Unit: | 3617        |
| Filed:      | NOVEMBER 20, 2003                 | Docket No.:     | 9047.25USU1 |
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By: Kate G. Brown  
Name: KATE G. BROWN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

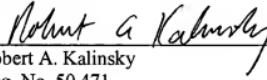
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: May 5, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert A. Kalinsky  
Reg. No. 50,471  
RAK:PLSkIg

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|   |  |  |                               |                                   |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>FORM 1449*</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  |  |  | Docket Number:<br>9047.25USUI | Application Number:<br>10/718,139 |
| <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |  |  | Applicant: ZARN ET AL.        |                                   |
|   |  |  | Filing Date: 11/20/2003       | Group Art Unit: 3617              |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE       | NAME            | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                  | 2,961,725    | 11/29/1960 | McGee           |       |          |                            |
|                  | 3,367,349    | 02/06/1968 | O'Link          |       |          |                            |
|                  | 4,292,913    | 10/06/1981 | Siebert et al.  |       |          |                            |
|                  | 5,331,993    | 07/26/1994 | Billbury        |       |          |                            |
|                  | 5,471,715    | 12/05/1995 | Knize           |       |          |                            |
|                  | 5,706,753    | 01/13/1998 | Menne et al.    |       |          |                            |
|                  | 5,970,904    | 10/26/1999 | Wellen et al.   |       |          |                            |
|                  | 6,026,761    | 02/22/2000 | Parniske et al. |       |          |                            |
|                  |              |            |                 |       |          |                            |
|                  |              |            |                 |       |          |                            |
|                  |              |            |                 |       |          |                            |
|                  |              |            |                 |       |          |                            |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|              |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|              |      |         |       |          |             |    |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | "CRESTLINER 2002" Catalog, <i>Crestliner® - A Genmar Subsidiary</i> , pages 1-44, plus 2 insert pages (©2001)   |
|  | "LUND 2002" Catalog, <i>Lund Boat Company</i> , Front Cover, pages 1-58, and Back Cover (©2001)   |
|  | "LUND 2003" Catalog, <i>Lund Boat Company</i> , Front Cover, pages 13 and 14, and Back Cover (©2002)  |
|  | "Tarps & Covers: Boat Cover Accessories - Fastener D Type Screw," <i>ShipStore.com™ a division of Westport Marina™, Inc.</i> , <a href="http://mirror.shipstore.com/ss/html/TAY/TAY100402.html">http://mirror.shipstore.com/ss/html/TAY/TAY100402.html</a> , 2 pages (©1998-2002) |
|  | "Taylor Made Product 2002 Marine Accessory Products Catalog: Boat Cover Accessories," <i>Taylor Made Group, Inc.</i> , 2 pages (Last Printed 11/04/2002)  |

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|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER  | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. |                 |